



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [Am. H.B. 116 of the 129th G.A.](#)

Date: June 22, 2011

Status: As Passed by the House

Sponsor: Rep. Barnes

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Requires age appropriate instruction on, and parental notification of, public schools' policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- School district, community, and STEM schools may incur minimal administrative costs for annually providing students instruction on the schools' policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying. However, any costs incurred by the school in providing the instruction will presumably be offset by state or federal revenues.
- School district, community, and STEM schools may incur minimal administrative costs for annually sending to the home of each student a written statement describing the policy and the consequences of violating it.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Continuing law requires public schools to adopt a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying. These policies appear in student handbooks and are incorporated into school employee training materials. Current law also requires schools to develop a process for educating students about the policy. The bill replaces this requirement with a requirement that once per year schools provide students with age-appropriate instruction on their policies, but only to the extent that state or federal funds are appropriated for this purpose. Presumably, therefore, any costs incurred by the school in providing the instruction will be offset by state or federal revenues.

The bill also requires that schools send to the home of each student a written statement describing the policy and consequences of violating the policy. Schools may incur minimal administrative costs in sending written statements to a student's home. However, the bill permits schools to send these statements home with report cards, which presumably would lower any costs.